



# City of Las Cruces®

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

## Council Action and Executive Summary

Item # 9Ordinance/Resolution# 13-096For Meeting of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Ordinance First Reading Date)For Meeting of January 7, 2013  
(Adoption Date)

Please check box that applies to this item:

 QUASI JUDICIAL LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE

**TITLE:** A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DISTRIBUTION OF STIPENDS TO LOCAL YOUTH LEAGUES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST WITH OPERATIONAL EXPENSES FOR THE 2012 SEASON, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,450.28.

**PURPOSE(S) OF ACTION:**

To approve stipends to local youth leagues/associations.

<b>COUNCIL DISTRICT:</b> All		
<b>Drafter/Staff Contact:</b> Mark Johnston <i>mbj</i>	<b>Department/Section:</b> Parks & Recreation	<b>Phone:</b> 541-2550
<b>City Manager Signature:</b> <i>[Signature]</i>		

**BACKGROUND / KEY ISSUES / CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:**

For many years, the City of Las Cruces has subsidized a portion of the operational expenses associated with the provision of programs by local youth leagues and organizations through the disbursement of stipends.

On a yearly basis leagues and organizations that request stipends must adhere to the guidelines set forth in the Stipend Policy. The stipend requests are brought forward to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Board) for discussion and recommendation. At their regular meeting on November 15, 2012 the Board recommended the following stipend allocations:

Las Cruces Youth Baseball League      \$4,450.28

Upon receipt of these funds, it is additionally required that each organization receiving stipends provide a full accounting of fund expenditures as well as ensure that any assets purchased with said funds become jointly owned by the City and the organization. If an organization discontinues providing services any assets purchased with the stipend will become the property of the City of Las Cruces.

(Continue on additional sheets as required)

**SUPPORT INFORMATION:**

1. Resolution.
2. Exhibit "A", Stipend Policy and Criteria.
3. Exhibit "B", Excerpts from the draft meeting minutes from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting held November 15, 2012.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

<b>Is this action already budgeted?</b>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See fund summary below
	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	If No, then check one below:
	<i>Budget Adjustment Attached</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Expense reallocated from: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed funding is from a new revenue source (i.e. grant; see details below)	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed funding is from fund balance in the _____ Fund.
<b>Does this action create any revenue?</b>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Funds will be deposited into this fund: _____ in the amount of \$ _____ for FY ____.
	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no new revenue generated by this action.

**BUDGET NARRATIVE**

Funding for league/organization stipends is identified in the FY 12/13 budget in Parks and Recreation A&G.

**FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY:**

Fund Name(s)	Account Number(s)	Expenditure Proposed	Available Budgeted Funds in Current FY	Remaining Funds	Purpose for Remaining Funds
Parks and Recreation A&G	10383010 - 722190	\$4,450.28	\$213,738.38	\$209,288.10	Vector control, landscape maintenance, SER & other contracted services, etc.

**OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Vote "Yes"; this will approve the distribution of \$4,450.28 in stipends for 2012 season to the organizations noted herein.
2. Vote "No"; this will result in no distribution of stipends.

(Continue on additional sheets as required)

3. Vote to "Amend"; this could include approving stipends in different amounts than those shown above.
4. Vote to "Table"; and provide staff with further direction.

**REFERENCE INFORMATION:**

The resolution(s) and/or ordinance(s) listed below are only for reference and are not included as attachments or exhibits.

N/A

**RESOLUTION NO. 13-096**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DISTRIBUTION OF STIPENDS TO LOCAL YOUTH LEAGUES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST WITH OPERATIONAL EXPENSES FOR THE 2012 SEASON, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,450.28.**

The City Council is informed that:

**WHEREAS**, for many years the City of Las Cruces has subsidized a portion of the operational expenses associated with the provision of programs by local youth leagues and organizations through the disbursement of stipends in accordance with Stipend Policy and Criteria, Exhibit "A", attached hereto; and

**WHEREAS**, three local youth leagues/organizations requested funding; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board sent forward a recommendation for Council action at the regular meeting of November 15, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for the allocation of the approved stipend amount of \$4,450.28 is identified in the current FY12/13 budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the governing body of the City of Las Cruces:

**(I)**

**THAT** youth league stipend in the amount of \$4,450.28 is hereby approved, as cited in Exhibit "B", Excerpts from the draft meeting minutes from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting held November 15, 2012, attached hereto.

**(II)**

**THAT** City staff is hereby authorized to do all deeds necessary in the accomplishment of the herein above.

**DONE AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2013.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

(SEAL)

VOTE:

Mayor Miyagishima:	_____
Councillor Silva:	_____
Councillor Smith:	_____
Councillor Pedroza:	_____
Councillor Small:	_____
Councillor Sorg:	_____
Councillor Thomas:	_____

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

**CITY OF LAS CRUCES PARKS AND RECREATION SECTION POLICY****SUBJECT: LEAGUES AND ORGANIZATIONS CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF CITY FUNDS/STIPENDS****PURPOSE:**

Provide partial funding (stipends) to local City of Las Cruces and Dona Ana County recreational (non-select) youth leagues and organizations to assist with the operational costs of the league or association. The youth leagues and organizations must provide proof of financial need and community benefit to youth. Well established, financially sound youth leagues or organizations will not qualify. Adult leagues or organizations, select leagues or organizations, tournament teams and non-local residents will not qualify.

**OBJECTIVE:**

To provide guidelines and criteria for the distribution of City funding/stipend(s) to local recreational youth leagues or associations. The funding is intended to be used to lower the cost of participation for local youth participants.

**PROCEDURE:**

Local youth leagues and organizations may request monetary assistance for the operation of (non-select) recreational youth programs through the Parks and Recreation Section. All requests must directly benefit local youth participants (18 years old and younger), be made in writing, and received no later than July 1, of each calendar year. The funding request(s) will be based on the City's Fiscal Year (July 1 – June 30). Requesting leagues and organizations will be invited to speak before the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at their August or September meeting. The Board will develop funding recommendation(s) based on the criteria and forward a recommendation for City Council action at the October or November meeting. City Council has final approval of the amount of funding and will determine which leagues and organizations receive funding.

**Leagues and Organizations Responsibilities:**

In order to qualify for City funding, leagues and organizations must meet the following:

**Requesting Leagues or Associations will:**

- a. Provide program administration with emphasis on local recreational youth participation.
- b. Provide a detailed financial statement on an annual basis, within 30 days after conclusion of league activities and/or special event(s), tournaments or fund raising activities that utilize public space/facilities. The financial statement(s) will detail all funds received and expended for all league operations to include local, state, regional, or national tournaments for the previous year's program. The City of Las Cruces may also require an audit of the organization's expenses and of revenues in cases where the City of Las Cruces provides funding, direct support of or use of City facilities.
- c. Provide proof of insurance listing the City of Las Cruces as additionally insured, on an annual basis, or 30 days prior to the start of league play or special event. If for any reason the insurance expires prior to the conclusion of the calendar year, the league will provide proof of up-to-date information. League/tournament play or activities will not be authorized without proof of insurance listing the City of Las Cruces as additionally insured.
- d. Provide proof of 501c3 (or equivalent) non-profit corporation status with the State of New Mexico Public Regulation Commission on an annual basis, stating the league is in good standing. If for any reason, status expires prior to conclusion of the calendar year, the organization will provide proof of up-to-date information or return all City provided funding.
- e. Provide a prior-year copy of Form 990 or equivalent Tax Exempt Report, filed with the Internal Revenue Service, within 30 days of taxable year end date.
- f. Provide the City of Las Cruces with a letter of request for operating expenses stating the amount of the funding request; and outline how the funds will be utilized.
- g. Provide to the City the number of participants, teams, games, tournament games, coaches, volunteers, and any paid positions with the funding request.
- h. Procure and maintain a Policy of Worker's Compensation Insurance of its employees, and a policy of general liability insurance, with limits of coverage as specified in the New Mexico Tort Claims Act with the City named as an additional

insured on such liability policy. The League will not undertake any activities until the City is provided proof of such insurance.

- i. Not discriminate against any person regarding access to, or participation in any program, or any facility used in connection therewith, on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age or disability.
- j. Ensure that all programs, services, and activities are accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Including but not limited to, equal opportunity to participate and benefit, equally effective communication for persons with speech, hearing and other impairments, integrated seating, and the provision of reasonable modifications and/or accommodations adhering to the City of Las Cruces Communication Policy. If portable toilets are going to be provided, accessible units must also be provided at each bank of standard units.
- k. Provide an established written appeals procedure for players, parents, coaches, managers, and board members.
- l. Provide a written established corrective action policy to be followed by league officials dealing with the consumption of alcohol by coaches, managers, or participants prior to, during, or after practices or games and corrective action taken by league officials on reports of mistreatment of players.
- m. Provide a written, established refund policy.
- n. Have designated officials attend financial training provided by the City of Las Cruces Finance Department.
- o. Conduct a minimum of one Public Meeting open to the public on an annual basis. The meeting shall include the election of the board of directors for the league and shall be held prior to the start of the season(s). Additionally, the meeting shall be held to discuss and formally approve any changes in rules or regulations and/or formal action to be considered by the league. The league shall notify the City of the meeting place, date and time; and shall also advertise the same a minimum of one week in advance through a newspaper of general circulation. The minutes of this meeting shall be recorded, transcribed, and forwarded to the City Parks and Recreation Section along with a copy of the public notice. Failure to conform to this section may be grounds to deny any award of City funds to the league.

- p. Provide program registration at a non-City facility(s) and provide location information, contact name, and number, to the Parks and Recreation Section Administrative Office at least two weeks prior to registration date.
- q. Provide all league schedules, including tournament schedules to the Parks and Recreation Section Administrative Office a minimum of two weeks prior to start of season.

**FUNDING REQUESTS WILL BE PRIORITIZED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

- a. All funds will be utilized for local youth 18 and under.
- b. New or start-up leagues vs. well established leagues.
- c. Leagues and organizations have developed a plan to lower the cost of participation.
- d. Leagues and organizations do not have paid positions; on the Board or running operations.
- e. Number of youth benefiting from the stipend/funding.
- f. Stipend request equates to what percentage of league resources?
- g. League willing to run a tournament with profit going to City of Las Cruces.
- h. League utilizes other fund raising efforts to reduce costs to participate.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will recommend funding levels to the City Council for final action.

**FUND DISBURSEMENT:**

Local youth leagues and organizations that meet the criteria and receive City Council approval for funding may submit requests for payment to the Parks and Recreation Section Administrative Office.

**PAL BOXING**

PAL Boxing will not be covered by this Policy; funding options will be considered through a different process and Resolution. PAL Boxing will be administered through the Las Cruces Police Department.

~~144~~  
**“DRAFT”**  
**ABBREVIATED VERSION**

**EXHIBIT “B”**

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**  
**November 15, 2012**

1 The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting was held on November 15, 2012 at  
2 City Hall, 700 Main Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

3  
4 **PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

5 Mr. Ron Camunez, Board Chair, Mr. Mark O’Neill, Mr. Eli  
6 Guzman, Ms. Dawn Rue

7  
8 **ABSENT:** Ms. Elizabeth Brown, Mr. Wayne Hancock

9  
10 **OTHERS PRESENT:**

11 Mr. Mark Johnston, Director Parks & Recreation; Ms. Sonya  
12 Delgado, P&R Operations Analyst; Ms. Shelly Hernandez  
13 PRAB Recording Secretary; and Mr. Paul Estep, LC Youth  
14 Baseball Association;

15 Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Camunez, and he recognized the  
16 meeting as having a legal quorum.

17  
18 **I. Introductions**

19 Board Members introduced themselves and stated the district they represent.

20  
21  
22 **II. Conflict of Interest**

23  
24 No conflict of interest

25  
26 **III. Approval of Minutes**

27  
28 Removed from Abbreviated Version...Available in full Version

29  
30 **IV. Public Comment**

31  
32 Removed from Abbreviated Version...Available in full Version

33  
34 **V. New Business**

35  
36 *A. Las Cruces Youth Baseball Complaint -----Information*

37  
38 Removed from Abbreviated Version...Available in full Version

39  
40 *B. Stipend Board Approval*

41 *a. Las Cruces Youth Baseball-----Action*

1 Mr. Camunez- Moving on, Stipend Board Approval for the Las Cruces Youth  
2 Baseball. I believe that you have a stipend report in your packet, it's after the letter  
3 that's there, item G letter and there is a stipend request. We've all seen this I think  
4 you were here two months ago, when all of you were here and we saw these. And  
5 now, the Las Cruces Youth Baseball is asking for \$4,450.28. Mr. Johnston, do you  
6 want to give us a brief history on this one?  
7

8 Mr. Johnston- Yes, Mr. Chairman, members of the board, Las Cruces Baseball  
9 Association, we've talked about how they operated, what they did, the fact that the  
10 league is in the business of providing services for recreational baseball. During the  
11 process of the year, the league purchased portable mounds for use by the league,  
12 which in turn saved Las Cruces Parks and Recreation money, because every time  
13 that a softball tournament or different use came on the ball field, we have to tear the  
14 mounds down and then rebuild them. Building those mounds is not simply putting  
15 dirt on and then scraping dirt off. It's build with clay, (Mr. O'Neal is shaking his  
16 head) it's quite extensive. This year the league did purchase bases and purchased  
17 the mounds and they are now requesting a 50 percent reimbursement for the  
18 purchase of those. We do have a representative from the league here if I need to  
19 go farther with that.  
20

21 Mr. Camunez- Let me just interject, in your packet there's an item there, this one  
22 here G, letter request for operating expenses in the middle paragraph, "We are  
23 offering to donate the equipment to the City of Las Cruces Parks and Recreation  
24 department for 50 percent of the purchase price, the original purchase price of all  
25 equipment is \$8,900.00", so that gives you an idea of what I directed staff last  
26 month and it reflects in the minutes to check with legal what is our role in that, is  
27 that breaking the anti-donation clause too, or what? So Mr. Johnston, do you have  
28 a finding from legal in this and how we are to proceed?  
29

30 Mr. Johnston- Mr. Chairman, members of the board, we have a statement right in  
31 our fees and charges policy that allows us to do quid pro quo, this for that. We can  
32 make a deal with a league to supply materials, goods, services in exchange for  
33 reduction in tournament fees, waiver of fee, that type of thing. This is a little different  
34 in the effect that the board, the league, purchased these materials and now, after  
35 the fact, they would like to get reimbursed for 50 percent of them.  
36

37 Mr. Camunez- So they did not ask before to do that in exchange for, they just did it  
38 on their own?  
39

40 Mr. Johnston- Correct, however it was in partnership with us, to help offset our cost  
41 for operations. So, it wasn't agreed to upfront, they are requesting now at the end of  
42 the season to reimburse 50 percent of that, at which time the mounds and the  
43 bases become the property of the City of Las Cruces and we are allowed to do that.  
44

45 Mr. Camunez- So, this stipend that they're requesting is half of this?  
46

1 Mr. Johnston- Correct.

2  
3 Mr. Camunez- ..Is what I read here in this? So, is there any question from the board  
4 regarding this?

5  
6 Mr. O'Neill- I have a question.

7  
8 Mr. Camunez- Yes sir, Mr. O'Neill.

9  
10 Mr. O'Neill- We've given past stipends to the league, were those used to buy these,  
11 or are we paying for this, half of this twice?

12  
13 Mr. Camunez- That's a good question Mr. O'Neill.

14  
15 Mr. O'Neill- I was wondering if the past stipends were ear-marked where the league  
16 had used those to buy these items?

17  
18 Mr. Camunez- Good question. Mr. Johnston?

19  
20 Mr. Johnston- I'll defer to the league representative.

21  
22 Mr. Camunez- Yes sir, state your name.

23  
24 Mr. Estep- Mr. Chairman, members of the board, my name is Paul Estep...

25  
26 Mr. Camunez- Estep?

27  
28 Mr. Estep- Estep, E-s-t-e-p and I am a Vice President in the league for the 13-14  
29 year olds. I can't speak to the how far past we have received the stipends, I do  
30 know when I came on as a member on the board, this current year we had zero  
31 balance, and so the fees that we received from coaches and concession stands,  
32 somewhere in there, is where we got this the money to purchase these.

33  
34 Mr. Camunez- So if I am correct, you had a balance, when you started the season  
35 you had a negative balance, or no balance, barely had enough. So, we are to  
36 assume that they used the monies from their last stipends for the season which just  
37 ended would be what you are telling us, is that correct?

38  
39 Mr. Estep- I believe so sir.

40  
41 Mr. Camunez- Mr. O'Neill do you have any other questions?

42  
43 Mr. O'Neill- The only thing, this is why I think that any stipends that the City should  
44 provide a league should be used for the benefit of allowing young people that can't  
45 afford to play like for scholarship funds rather than money to operate the league,  
46 where they can raise enough money to operate the league, especially a league

1 where they are paying people to do some certain odd jobs in the league. So, that's  
2 just my concern, but if the board believes, if we agree that this money was from the  
3 league resources and not from stipends and Mark recommends that we do this  
4 since we would now be owning this equipment, I don't have a problem with that.  
5

6 Mr. Camunez- My question is do you have paid staff, your league? You do have  
7 people that you pay?  
8

9 Mr. Estep- Mr. Chairman, we have a person we hire to run the umpires, and the  
10 score keepers that receive fees, and we did pay also, the gentleman who ran the  
11 concession stands that was out of concession stand fee, not as far as-actually most  
12 of the pay for umpires and all that came out of that also.  
13

14 Mr. Camunez- Mr. Johnson, -...

15  
16 Mr. O'Neill- And you still pay scorekeepers and you still pay people that work the  
17 snack bar is that correct?  
18

19 Mr. Camunez- Their financial statements, you have seen? They say they've  
20 provided financial statements to you according to the...  
21

22 Mr. Johnston-, Regarding financial statements, Mr. Chairman, members of the  
23 board; at the beginning of the season, I have not received financial statements for  
24 this year. I won't receive those until the April, tax time.  
25

26 Mr. Camunez- Any other questions, Mr. Guzman, Ms. Rue?  
27

28 Ms. Rue- I have a question. My question is we've had several items come before  
29 this board regarding youth baseball and every time it comes before this board Mr.  
30 Compos is never here. Is there a reason he never comes to these meetings? When  
31 it's his group that we are having to deal with, there is always a representative or a  
32 non-board member.  
33

34 Mr. Camunez- He is the Vice President for the board, this gentleman here.  
35

36 Ms. Rue- Just for a certain age group correct?  
37

38 Mr. Estep- No, just for a board. We have a President, Vice President and \_\_\_\_\_  
39

40 Mr. Camunez – Who is Mr. Campo?  
41

42 Ms. Rue- He is the President.  
43

44 Mr. Estep- Chairman, he is our President.  
45

46 Mr. Camunez- He is your President, and why isn't he here tonight?

1  
2 Mr. Estep- I cannot answer for that sir.

3  
4 Mr. Camunez- Ok, fair question, but...

5  
6 Ms. Rue- I think we'd get more information from him to know where things have  
7 been spent, and why there in that hole.

8  
9 Mr. Camunez- Maybe we need to stipulate in some way that when stipends come  
10 we would prefer to have the 'top dog' here that night or when we discuss that,  
11 because it puts you at an unfair advantage that you don't know. And I understand  
12 what you are saying, so let's finish this and then I'll bring up a motion after we are  
13 done with this to what I've just said, ok?

14  
15 Mr. Camunez- Mr. Guzman do you have any comments or questions on this?

16  
17 Mr. Guzman- Is the City ok with this?

18  
19 Mr. Johnston- Mr. Chairman, members of the board, without digging deeply into the  
20 financials, it's really hard for me to make a call one way or the other; however, with  
21 the ownership of the items provided being transferred to the City, I do know that the  
22 expenditures were right close to \$9,000.00 and we would normally have to buy  
23 these types of things anyway. We didn't have it in the budget this year, the league  
24 offered to help out; however, their financial situation didn't allow them to help out all  
25 the way, but only to the half. Are there different things they could do as a league  
26 with the scorekeepers, that kind of thing? Yes. I think that those recommendations  
27 are going to be carried forward. Once we wrap this up and get into comments, Mr.  
28 Chair, I'll fill you in more on that. This is good value, I think, for our dollars and  
29 cents, because the city is retaining ownership.

30  
31 Mr. Camunez- Right. It raises another question to me, that we may want to put in  
32 our policy for next year, give us time to draft one, to say that no City funds will be  
33 used to purchase equipment for us to purchase back, because that is double-  
34 dipping at the end of the day. So, we need to make that very, very clear. Is the first  
35 time that we've had this situation presented? I've been on the board now 3 years  
36 and it's never come before. Has that happened before this type of...

37  
38 Mr. Johnston- Mr. Chairman, members of the board, this has not happened before.  
39 This is a first.

40  
41 Mr. Camunez- So, it opens a door so that we can address that to our policy, to state  
42 that in the policy and also, that when stipend distribution comes forward that we  
43 need to also have the president or COO of their organization to be present, but  
44 that's just notes for now. Any other questions, Mr. Guzman; are you satisfied with  
45 what he said?  
46

1 Mr. Guzman- Yes sir.

2

3 Mr. Camunez- Ok, Mr. O'Neill did you have anything else?

4

5 Mr. O'Neill- I understand that they have not requested any other stipend this year  
6 and will not be requesting any other stipend for this up-coming year. Is that correct?

7

8 Mr. Johnston- Mr. Chairman, members of the board, the way that we designed the  
9 stipend policy, the stipends are received at the end of the calendar year, because of  
10 the way our fiscal year runs, and so we are at the tail end of the soccer season and  
11 we are at the tail end of the football season, we are at the tail end of the baseball  
12 season, so it is 12/13 season and then at the end of '13 they could request again,  
13 starting in August/September.

14

15 Mr. Guzman- At the end of '13?

16

17 Mr. Johnston- Yes

18

19 Mr. Guzman- OK

20

21 Mr. Camunez- Any other questions or comments from the board? Anything else  
22 from staff?

23

24 Mr. O'Neill- I have a comment. My question is more in regards to the budget than  
25 this particular item, but it seems to me if we have 556 coaches and 1,400 youth that  
26 we shouldn't be having a budget problem at all within the league, because there are  
27 so many ways to earn money and stuff. So, I guess my concern more is their  
28 budget and coming every year for a stipend, instead of every once in a while when  
29 they have a bigger demand for kids needing something. And, I feel that they are  
30 using their stipend as a way to just have extra money in their budget. I don't know,  
31 because they gather a league fee from every team and they get all these fees in  
32 where is all that going. And I know they've got to pay the ref's and they're paying  
33 score keepers and the snack bar people. Are you guys getting profit from the snack  
34 bar, or the person running the snack bar keeps all the profit too? How's that  
35 working?

36

37 Mr. Estep- Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board, we did not make that much as far  
38 as our snack bar went this Summer, so I can't answer to where all that money goes.  
39 I know some of that money went to pay some of the umpires. We did over-budget,  
40 or miss-budget, if you will, the fees that we paid the umpires. That comes; you can  
41 see that directly on our website, the fees and where they go to. But, we do not  
42 budget enough for, to pay for our umpires through tournaments we have like  
43 through the champion, like the City tournament; and, we had some issues with  
44 paying different fees to different umpires, so experienced umpires were receiving  
45 more than younger umpires. They also receive more games, so that's part of our  
46 miss-budgeting. We had, as far as score keepers and umpires, were the only fees

1 that came out of the fees that coaches and kids pay. That does not go into anything  
2 that the snack bar, it works the other way. Snack bar came over and helped a little  
3 bit with the umpire's fees, but the money the kid's pay all went into the registration  
4 fee, which paid for the umpires, and things like, actually, the mounds and bases,  
5 that part of our budget.

6  
7 Mr. Camunez- Do the fees that you collect and on top of what the City gives you, do  
8 you use those funds to help under privileged kids be on leagues and help them with  
9 their fees and all that stuff? Does that money come out of that to do that?

10  
11 Mr. Estep- At this time, Mr. Chairman, I can't say that it does or does not. I am  
12 unaware of that. I do not believe so. The way our fee system works- we believe,  
13 there's a couple of us on the board that believe, that it's a little bit, not used  
14 correctly. In other words, I don't think we do it right. We do it differently than other  
15 leagues. I don't want to assume or say that it's misused. I just want to say that we  
16 charge a team fee rather than individual kid fees, and if it's an individual kid fee  
17 then we can waive those; but, when we charge team fees we can't waive. And, we  
18 don't have any way of saying. Our fee for a team for instance, was \$600.00 for one  
19 league for a team, I know for a 12-year-old team, so every team had to turn in  
20 \$600.00. We did not manage how they got that \$600.00, if they charged the kids.

21  
22 Mr. Camunez- So the team is responsible for raising their own fee.

23  
24 Mr. Estep- Yes sir.

25  
26 Mr. Camunez- Ok, and none of what we give you and what you get go to subsidize  
27 any teams, let's say, that are short; for example, because they have poor  
28 participants that can't help raise that \$600.00 level fee and they are short like  
29 \$400.00, then what do you do?

30  
31 Mr. Estep- Mr. Chairman, and members of the board, we did have some teams like  
32 that and we just did not receive their full fee this year.

33  
34 Mr. Camunez- OK.

35  
36 Mr. Estep- I would suggest to ourselves that we need to write something in for that.  
37 We are looking at changing our fee structure and looking at making an individual  
38 thing, where we can have parents; even coaches come and talk to us about  
39 individual situations where we can waive fees.

40  
41 Mr. Camunez- My comment to you, Ms. Rue, is this true, when you are looking at  
42 the funding, I know that I hear people say that just because of the economy the  
43 monies aren't coming in. Not only in this sport, but in other sports that people aren't  
44 buying as many concessions as they would otherwise, so forth and so on. A lot of  
45 these leagues that are struggling are dependent upon what little we give them. I  
46 know that Mr. O'Neill would like to see us not have stipends at all and go some

1 other route, but I'm just making a comment that what we are seeing financially from  
2 these things is just a reflection of the economy, and you know that. You're a banker,  
3 you know exactly what I'm talking about, so have them come to your bank and give  
4 them loans (laughter).

5  
6 Ms. Rue-I only do mortgages (laughter).

7  
8 Mr. Camunez- So, anyway, any other comments, do you have any other comment  
9 Ms. Rue?

10  
11 Ms. Rue- Just...

12  
13 Mr. Camunez- She is a figure lady, she is going through it close. Do you have  
14 anything else?

15  
16 Mr. Estep- No.

17  
18 Mr. Camunez- Mr. O'Neill?

19  
20 Mr. O'Neill- So your sponsors are not league sponsors, they are only team  
21 sponsors? Is that correct?

22  
23 Mr. Estep- Yes, at this point they are. So we are trying to. We are in the middle (and  
24 I don't know how to speak too candidly when it's being recorded too), but we are  
25 trying to make changes and we are trying to make some drastic changes for the  
26 positive in our league. At this point, if there is a sponsor it is solely for a team. We  
27 even do have some teams who make kids individually go get sponsors for  
28 themselves. I know that happened.

29  
30 Mr. O'Neill- And the managers hand pick their players for their team, so there is  
31 really not just a sign up where they can sign up and be on a team, without putting a  
32 lot of money forward. So, I think there are a lot of things that need to be done. They  
33 need a liaison or somebody to help with a lot of situations in that league, because I  
34 know for a fact, and from experience, that leagues like that can make as much as  
35 \$50,000.00 to \$100,000.00 and carry over like \$30,000.00 to the next year;  
36 because, they should be making just that \$30,000.00 just on their snack bar alone.  
37 So, there is a situation there that needs to be looked at, you know, internally, or with  
38 outside help or whatever it is. Umpires can be paid for and everything else in the  
39 league without even needing a stipend. This is a different situation we are looking at  
40 here than a stipend.

41  
42 Mr. Estep- Members of the board, Mr. Chairman and I believe that Ms. Rue you are  
43 actually writing numbers, and I like to see that, because what you will find out is if  
44 we charge \$600.00 for a team to break that up into 12 kids or 13 kids that's \$50.00  
45 or around there, and what we are looking at budget-wise, is needing like \$75.00-  
46 \$80.00 per kid. So, we are looking into a system of making an individual, I think I

1 mentioned that earlier, where it is let's just say more strict how we look at why we  
2 have the money, why we are charging individual kids this. But, also offering a  
3 choice out, and what we are looking for is individual kid's fees, but that pays for  
4 shirt and hat, but they can buy pants from Wal-Mart or whatever, or let the team  
5 opt-out of that; and, that's sort of where we are sort of looking for. We are searching  
6 and we are listening, people to give us ideas and talk. We know that there is the  
7 whole selective process; I call it "full select" which you can go out and fully select  
8 your team. You can recruit, you can call, you can get off of other teams, and there  
9 are issues with that as well.

10  
11 Mr. O'Neill- That really limits who can play.

12  
13 Mr. Estep- There are some deep roots in that and I've been in a couple of meeting  
14 where that was brought up and there was anger; that's all I can say. There's a lot of  
15 coaches that put in a lot, they feel, (and this is where the adults get in the way, I  
16 believe), they feel they've put in too much time into their kids and their own team to  
17 have it split up to make it either a what we call "6 select" where 6 kids, coaches  
18 three kids and three kids you get to select and then it's a draft. There are a myriad  
19 of choices that we can move to, but we're going to have to break down some walls  
20 and some barriers before that is actually something that comes to fruition.

21  
22 Mr. O'Neill-Plus when the team is raising their own money you don't know how that  
23 money is being spent, they can be spending for anything. So, they are paying this  
24 exorbitant amount for their team uniforms and they have so much better uniforms  
25 than the next team and that creates a lot of friction I would imagine. Then it's a lot of  
26 money spent, and all that money that should be going to the leagues is coming to  
27 the team and then they don't have money to pay umpires or whatever else they  
28 need to pay. Anyway that is my two-cents.

29  
30 Mr. Camunez- Let's move forward, any other comments? Do I have a motion to  
31 approve this paying half? Really, it's not even a stipend it's paying half of the  
32 equipment that was purchased by the Las Cruces Youth Baseball. Do we hear a  
33 motion that we go ahead and do that?

34  
35 Ms. Rue- I will motion to go ahead and approve that, only on the basis that it helps  
36 our Park and Rec. Department to not have to spend the man-hours, other than that,  
37 I would not approve it.

38  
39 Mr. Camunez- Ok, well you heard Mr. Johnston's comments to us regarding that.  
40 Do I hear a second?

41  
42 Mr. Guzman- I'll second.

43  
44 Mr. Camunez- It's been moved and seconded to go ahead and reimburse, or pay  
45 for half of it. I don't like reimburse cause it's not. We are paying for half of the  
46 \$8,900.00 that they bought equipment this last season and the City reaps the

1 benefit by keeping that, and based on that, that's what the motion is to approve  
2 that. All those in favor say "Aye". All those opposed. Motion is carried.  
3

4 Mr. Ron Camunez voted YES Ms. Eli Guzman voted YES  
5 Mr. Mark O'Neill voted YES Ms. Dawn Rue voted YES  
6

7 Mr. Johnston- Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry, for clarification, the recommendation is a  
8 flat \$4500.00 not \$4450.28  
9

10 Mr. Camunez- Whatever half is of the \$8955.00 is that \$4450.00 that's what we are  
11 approving.  
12

13 Ms. Rue- and the \$0.28  
14

15 Mr. Camunez- And the \$0.28  
16

17 Mr. Johnston- Very good, I want to make sure I got it correct.  
18